

The Clerk read the title of the bill.
The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5659

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. JOHN R. HATCHER III POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1961 North C Street in Oxnard, California, shall be known and designated as the “John R. Hatcher III Post Office Building”.

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the “John R. Hatcher III Post Office Building”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY) and the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. KELLER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on this measure.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from New York?

There was no objection.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 5659, a bill to honor John Hatcher. John Hatcher III was born to a civil rights leader in Birmingham, Alabama, during the Jim Crow era.

He followed in his father's footsteps and spent his life fighting for equality. Mr. Hatcher was a member of the NAACP for more than 60 years, 40 of which he served as the president of the Ventura County Chapter. In addition, he spent 8 years as the NAACP southern area president, covering six States.

He was also a veteran of the U.S. Air Force, serving for more than 22 years before working as a civil servant for the Department of the Navy.

As a recipient of the African-American Achievement Award at California State University, Channel Islands, Mr. Hatcher aided in the establishment of the Ventura County African American Chamber of Commerce, the Tri County Sentry newspaper, and naming of the Thurgood Marshall School in the Oxnard School District.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to join me in honoring this civil rights leader by naming the Post Office at 1961 North C Street in Oxnard, California, as the John R. Hatcher III Post Office Building, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. KELLER. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 5659, which honors John R. Hatcher III.

Mr. Hatcher was born in Birmingham, Alabama, during the Jim

Crow era. He spent his lifetime fighting for equality.

He was a longtime member of the NAACP and spent nearly 40 years as president of the Ventura County Chapter and an additional 6 years as the NAACP southern area president.

Mr. Hatcher was also a United States Air Force veteran and served more than 22 years in the military before working as a civil servant for the Department of the Navy. He was honored with the African-American Achievement Award at California State University, Channel Islands.

He also aided in the establishment of the Ventura County African American Chamber of Commerce, the Tri County Sentry newspaper, and the naming of the Thurgood Marshall School in the Oxnard School District.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to support this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I urge passage of H.R. 5659, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5659.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. FULCHER. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 3(s) of House Resolution 8, the yeas and nays are ordered.

Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion are postponed.

THELMA HARPER POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5271) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2245 Rosa L Parks Boulevard in Nashville, Tennessee, as the “Thelma Harper Post Office Building”.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5271

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. THELMA HARPER POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2245 Rosa L Parks Boulevard in Nashville, Tennessee, shall be known and designated as the “Thelma Harper Post Office Building”.

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the “Thelma Harper Post Office Building”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from

New York (Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY) and the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. KELLER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on this measure.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from New York?

There was no objection.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 5271, a bill to honor Thelma Harper.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. COOPER), the chairman of the Committee on Armed Services' Subcommittee on Strategic Forces.

Mr. COOPER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask support for H.R. 5271, my bill to name this Nashville Post Office for a great friend of mine and a great friend of all Tennesseans, the late State Senator Thelma Harper.

Thelma was many things. She was a beloved public servant. She was the first African American to be elected to the Tennessee State senate, and she was the first female African American to be elected to the Tennessee Senate. She was the longest-serving female State senator in all of Tennessee history.

Her nearly four decades of public service were marked by her tireless service on behalf of her constituents. She started in the city council, and she helped fight a toxic landfill in her community of Bordeaux.

She then moved to the State senate, and she continued to fight for average people in Nashville, Tennessee. She served in the State senate until 2018, and she had a hand in many of Nashville's greatest projects: for example, bringing the Tennessee Titans to our city, the development of Nashville's Music City Center, the downtown public library, and for the National Museum of African American Music.

Thelma Harper was a proud member of the Delta Sigma Theta sorority, and she served as chair of the Tennessee Commemorative Women's Suffrage Commission.

She is fondly remembered by many for her annual Kids' Are Special Too community Easter egg hunts, which kids delighted in, and which I personally participated in for many years. Those were held continuously and are continued by her family since Thelma passed away in May of 2021.

Most importantly, Thelma was a dear friend who was kind enough to include me in her family. She was a member of

many organizations in Nashville, a mentor, a teacher, and a friend. She taught me how to find common ground, even with some tough political adversaries. She saw the best in everyone.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 5271.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. KELLER. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 5271, which honors former Tennessee State Senator Thelma Harper. Senator Harper was the first African-American female elected to the State senate and the longest-serving female State senator in Tennessee history.

Prior to this, she served as the grand jury foreman for the Davidson County Fifth Circuit Court as a representative of the Metropolitan Nashville Council.

Throughout her time in public service, Senator Harper championed children's issues and has been recognized with numerous awards for her public service.

She worked to create a safe haven law to save abandoned babies and establish a fee waiver to provide low-income students with school supplies and lunches.

Senator Harper was a dedicated public servant, and I encourage my colleagues to support this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I urge passage of H.R. 5271, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5271.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. FULCHER. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 3(s) of House Resolution 8, the yeas and nays are ordered.

Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion are postponed.

□ 1545

LANCE CORPORAL KAREEM NIKOUI MEMORIAL POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5809) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1801 Town and Country Drive in Norco, California, as the "Lance Corporal Kareem Nikoui Memorial Post Office Building".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5809

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. LANCE CORPORAL KAREEM NIKOUI MEMORIAL POST OFFICE.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1801 Town and Country Drive in Norco, California, shall be known and designated as the "Lance Corporal Kareem Nikoui Memorial Post Office Building".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Lance Corporal Kareem Nikoui Memorial Post Office Building".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY) and the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. KELLER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on this measure.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from New York?

There was no objection.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 5809, a bill to honor Lance Corporal Kareem Nikoui.

As a high school student, Lance Corporal Nikoui joined the Air Force Junior ROTC program where he volunteered for the city of Norco's Pearl Harbor anniversary as well as prisoner of war events.

After graduating from high school, he joined the Marine Corps, where he was assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 1st Marines unit stationed at Camp Pendleton. When he was afforded leave, he often returned home and invited his fellow marines to share a home-cooked meal with his family.

Lance Corporal Nikoui was tragically killed in the attack on Afghanistan's Kabul airport last year.

I encourage my colleagues to join me in honoring the sacrifice of Lance Corporal Nikoui by naming the post office at 1801 Town and Country Drive in Norco, California, as the "Lance Corporal Kareem Nikoui Memorial Post Office Building."

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. KELLER. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 5809, which honors marine Lance Corporal Kareem Nikoui.

Lance Corporal Nikoui was born in 2001, the same year that the war in Afghanistan began.

Last year, he was killed by a suicide bombing at the Kabul airport during

the U.S. withdrawal from Afghanistan. He had gone back inside the Kabul airport to guide children to safety when a suicide bomb went off.

While only 20 years old, Lance Corporal Nikoui served America with dignity and courage while fighting to protect those seeking refuge and freedom in our great Nation.

I strongly encourage my colleagues to support this bill honoring a true American hero, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I urge passage of this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. KELLER. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from California (Mr. CALVERT).

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 5809, legislation I introduced to designate the U.S. Post Office located in Norco, California, as the Lance Corporal Kareem Nikoui Memorial Post Office Building.

As we approach the 1-year anniversary of Lance Corporal Nikoui's death, my congressional district continues to honor the life and memory of Kareem, who was a Norco resident and will be forever remembered as an American hero.

As a student at Norco High School, Kareem was inspired to answer the call of service to his country. When he joined the Marine Corps, Kareem was following in the footsteps of patriots. Like his fellow marines, he was not signing up for glory or reward, but out of a sense of duty. Kareem was willing to make sacrifices in his own life so that others could live freely.

In his final days, Kareem was on the front lines of a mission to secure freedom for desperate people trying to flee Afghanistan. Like so many of the U.S. servicemembers and coalition allies, Kareem conducted himself with bravery and compassion, despite the chaos that resulted from a poorly planned exit from Afghanistan. In addition to securing the airfield, Kareem helped care for children, women, and the elderly by sharing with them water and candy.

The suicide bombing that claimed the lives of Kareem and 12 other U.S. servicemembers, as well as hundreds of Afghans, was an act of cowardice and evil. The worst of mankind heartbreakingly robbed us of so many who represented the best of mankind.

This bill, this Congress, and this country can never fully repay the Nikoui family for the sacrifice that they have made, but by passing this bill, the House remembers Kareem's bravery, and we pay tribute to a young life taken too soon. As the sponsor of this bill, I will continue to work so it becomes law so that the community of Norco will forever honor and enshrine the name of Lance Corporal Kareem Nikoui.

Mr. KELLER. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time to close.